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Attorney Docket No. 26512-501

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/706,446  
Applicant(s) : William A. Fotino, *et al.*  
Filed : November 12, 2003  
TC/A.U. : Not Yet Assigned  
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
Docket No. : 26512-501  
Title : Ball Stud for Suspension System

January 30, 2004  
New York, New York

### Mail Stop IDS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate) in the above-identified application. The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. §1.97.

A copy of each of the references is enclosed unless otherwise indicated on the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified). It is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims, and signs the enclosed form PTO-1449 to evidence that the

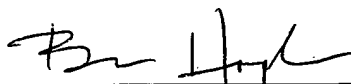
APPL. NO. 10/706,446  
DATE OF January 30, 2004  
DEPOSIT:

cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants makes no representation that: (1) more relevant information does not exist; (2) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b); and (3) the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his/her own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information. An early and favorable action is hereby requested. Please charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 26512-501, Customer No. 35437.

Respectfully submitted,

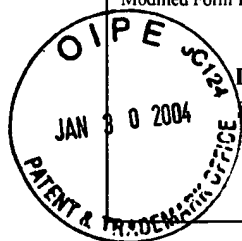


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Dated: January 30, 2004

Modified Form 1449/PTO

Application Number	10/706,446
Filing Date	November 12, 2003
First Named Inventor	William A. Fotino, <i>et al.</i>
Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	26512-501



# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary  
1 of 2)

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document No.	Issue Date	Name of Patentee(s) or Applicant(s)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	3,226,141	12-28-1965	L.S. Sullivan, Jr.			
	A2	4,163,617	08-07-1979	Nemoto			
	A3	4,572,693	02-25-1986	Nemoto			
	A4	4,921,368	05-01-1990	Busse, et al.			
	A5	4,954,006	09-04-1990	Suzuki, et al.			
	A6	4,979,844	12-25-1990	Teramachi			
	A7	5,152,628	10-06-1992	Broszat, et al.			
	A8	5,601,378	02-11-1997	Fukukawa, et al.			
	A9	5,611,635	03-18-1997	Schutt, et al.			
	A10	5,653,547	08-05-1997	Teramachi, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Office Number	Name of Patentee(s) or Applicant(s)	Date of Publication	Translation Yes No

## OTHER NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

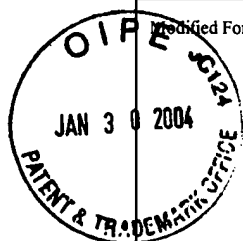
Exam Initials	Cite No.	Name of Author, Title (when appropriate), Publication, Volume, Page(s), Date, Etc.

\* a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, U.S.S.N. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.

Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Modified Form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary  
2 of 2)

Application Number	10/706,446
Filing Date	November 12, 2003
First Named Inventor	William A. Fotino, <i>et al.</i>
Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
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	A11	5,676,485	10-14-1997	Lee			
	A12	5,752,780	05-19-1998	Dorr			
	A13	5,782,573	07-21-1998	Dorr et al.			
	A14	5,876,149	03-02-1999	Dorr et al.			
	A15	6,109,816	08-29-2000	Iwasaki			
	A16	6,190,080 B1	02-20-2001	Lee			
	A17	2002/0028106 A1	03-07-2002	De Freitas			
	A18	2002/0146277 A1	10-10-2002	Kuroda			
	A19	2002/0181999 A1	12-05-2002	Raak, et al.			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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**OTHER NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

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